

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

Call to Order: Chairman Donald J. Steinbeisser, on April 7, 2009
at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser, Chairman (R)
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)

Members Excused: None

Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary
Sue O'Connell, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 655, 3/28/2008; SR 29, 3/27/2008
Executive Action: HB 655; SR 29

00:01:14 Vice Chairman Murphy took the chair.

HEARING ON SR 29

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:15 Sen. Donald Steinbeisser (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SR 29, Confirm nominee as Director of Department of Agriculture.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:01:57 Mike Volesky, Policy Advisor for Natural Resources
00:02:23 Les Graham, Montana Livestock Auction and Market Association

Informational Testimony from Nominee

00:03:02 Ron de Yung, Director, Department of Agriculture (DOA)
00:04:29 Sen. Jackson present
00:06:32 Sen. Brown present

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:53 Sen. Larsen
00:07:23 Mr. de Yung, DOA
00:07:39 Sen. Larsen
00:08:06 Mr. de Yung, DOA
00:09:16 Sen. Branae
00:09:30 Mr. de Yung, DOA
00:09:47 Sen. Hansen left the room.
00:11:14 Sen. Jackson
00:11:58 Mr. de Yung, DOA
00:15:33 Sen. Brown
00:17:31 Mr. de Yung, DOA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:50 Chairman Steinbeisser
00:22:10 Chairman Steinbeisser took the chair.

HEARING ON HB 655

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:34 Rep. Tony Belcourt (D), HD 32, opened the hearing on HB 655, Revise agriculture laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:24:39 Les Graham, Montana Livestock Auction and Market Association

00:28:06 John Grainger, Brand Administrator, Department of Livestock (DOL)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:34:17 Sen. Jackson
00:34:55 Rep. Belcourt
00:35:38 Sen. Jackson
00:35:52 Rep. Belcourt
00:36:02 Sen. Jackson
00:36:26 Rep. Belcourt
00:37:03 Sen. Jackson
00:37:35 Rep. Belcourt
00:37:43 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:41:45 Sen. Brown
00:41:57 Rep. Belcourt
00:42:11 Sen. Brown
00:43:11 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:43:54 Sen. Brown
00:44:25 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:45:18 Sen. Brown
00:46:30 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:46:38 Sen. Brown
00:46:58 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:48:07 Sen. Brown
00:48:27 Sen. Larsen
00:49:58 Rep. Belcourt
00:51:56 Sen. Jackson
00:53:16 Mr. Grainger, DOL
00:55:47 Sen. Larsen
00:56:31 Mr. Graham

00:58:46 Sen. Larsen
00:59:51 Mr. Graham
01:00:27 Sen. Hamlett
01:00:56 Mr. Grainger, DOL

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:45 Rep. Belcourt

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 655

01:03:34 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Larsen moved that **HB 655 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ripley voted aye by proxy. Sen. Hansen voted aye by proxy. Sen. Hamlett will carry the bill in the Senate.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 29

01:03:40 **Motion:** Sen. Steinbeisser moved that **SR 29 BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED**.

Discussion:

01:05:08 Sen. Murphy took the chair.
01:05:21 Sen. Hamlett
01:05:36 Chairman Steinbeisser

01:05:40 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Ripley voted aye by proxy. Sen. Hansen voted aye by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

Joan Linkenbach, Secretary

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Additional Exhibit:

EXHIBIT (ags76a01)

Copies of letters requested by Senate Agriculture Committee for HB 445/Patented Plants, heard on March 31, 2009.

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT (ags76aad.pdf)